

CLAYTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
Monday, April 4, 2011
The Center of Clayton - Multipurpose Room C

The following members were present:

Alex Berger
Ira Berkowitz
Brad Bernstein
Mimi Deem
Judy Goodman

Rosemary Hardy
Jessie Hoagland
Eric Schneider
Mark Winings

Excused/Absent

Marguerite Garrick
Omri Praiss

Also present:

Patty DeForrest
Eric Gruenenfelder
Toni Siering

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the March 7, 2011 meeting were approved as read.

Addresses from the Audience: Residents, Mr. Jeff Morrissey and Ms. Gail Kathe who reside on Westmoreland attended the meeting to discuss the Hanley Park structure. Ms. DeForrest explained that the Hanley Park public forum scheduled on April 14 is when the plan will be discussed in detail. During the forum, the architects will discuss programming and design concepts. After the public forum, the architects will make changes based on public comments. The overall concept has not changed and it is a smaller footprint than the original design shown by Planning Design Studio. The result of the project is based on the Master Plan process and residents helped select the location for the structure. Mr. Morrissey said it seems like the structure has not evolved much. Further, residents have concerns about using the green space on such a small site and question the premise of the size of the building. Residents understand the need for restrooms, but question how much the structure will be used by schools. Also, residents do not feel like their opinions were considered as far as structure size, especially in comparison to the Hanley House. Construction of the structure will take approximately three to four months; therefore once an agreement has been made about the final design, the project is likely to be completed within one year.

The Center of Clayton Update: Ms. Toni Siering, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation Operations, presented the FY10 Center of Clayton report. (For detailed information about the report please see the attached PowerPoint.) There are 8,000 Center of Clayton members and 1,200 people participate in our programs. The City of Clayton Parks and Recreation Department has a shared usage agreement with OASIS. The Fitness Center added ten new pieces of cardiovascular equipment, and the equipment replacement plan consists of rotating pieces every three to five years. FY10 Capital Projects included concrete replacement at the main entrance of The Center and drain replacement in the pool.

Wood Court Floor update: Full replacement of the wood court floors has been authorized by insurance. This will give us a chance to look at the other water issues we have been experiencing. Camps are being relocated to Stuber Gym, and there is a plan in place to protect open court time. A set schedule will be developed which will be similar to the one used during winter months. Ms. DeForrest informed the Commission that a loss revenue claim has been filed.

Parent-Child lessons and Sports Monster Leagues are new programs that have been added to the programming schedule at The Center. The Center has a contractual agreement with Sports Monster to manage our Adult Basketball Leagues and hire staff. Having Sports Monster run their program allows Athletic staff to spend more time working on other programs. OASIS has expanded their

program offerings; now they have classes in the evening and on weekends. Also, The Center and OASIS have a joint marketing effort, which allows The Center to continually promote memberships.

The Center of Clayton Citizen Survey results were discussed. The overall ratings and comments were very good. It was noted that The Center has higher retention rate compared to similar facilities.

Director's Report: Centennial Art Update: The City received nineteen submittals, and the CCF-Art Committee narrowed it down to five artists. The next step is to have public meetings to discuss the art.

Shaw Park Walking Trail: The City of Clayton received a Walking Trail grant from the State of Missouri for \$100,000 and an additional \$150,000 from Brown Shoe Company.

Financial Report: The City is at the five month mark with the budget, and finances are in a good place at this time. The largest expense line is payment for full-time staff salaries. There will be budget challenges in FY12. The primary goals are to work on efficiency of operations and reduce Parks and Recreation accounts by ten percent. Staff is currently working on evaluating processes by putting together process maps. The process maps are assisting with streamlining work. Staff reductions are also taking place; the amount of employees working per shift has been reduced.

Small projects happening in the parks include: installation of the new playground surface at Taylor Park (almost half of the cost was paid for with a grant), painting Shaw Park Aquatic Center and work on the parking lot at Oak Knoll Park. Ms. DeForrest informed the Commission that the tennis courts are deteriorating, so repairs cannot be further delayed.

Ms. DeForrest announced that Ms. Jessie Hoagland has put together Green Spiral Tours and the first tour will be on April 13 at Shaw Park Treetop Playground. Ms. Hoagland explained how the nature tours operate, and said there will be more field trips throughout the year.

The City of Clayton is exploring other locations for a Dog Park. The survey on the Shaw Park Dog Park location is on hold because the City does not want to utilize staff services, time and money to conduct the survey.

Old Business / New Business: There is not any old or new business to report.